

General Information

Introduction

You will find important information in this book on seasons, harvest limits, methods, and customary and traditional (C&T) use determinations for the subsistence taking of wildlife on Federal public lands in Alaska. These regulations are effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 and apply only on Federal public lands. The regulations cover managed subsistence hunting and trapping activities of most species of land mammals, grouse, and ptarmigan. Subsistence fishing regulations are published separately.

Read the **Special Provisions** and Unit-specific information carefully for the management unit where you wish to take wildlife. Trapping regulations are in a separate section near the back of this book.

On July 1, 1990, the **Federal Subsistence Management Program** began managing wildlife resources on public lands. The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA) requires that subsistence users have a priority over other users to take wildlife on Federal public lands where recognized customary and traditional use patterns exist. Federal law gives rural subsistence users a preference over other consumptive users, when necessary, to restrict the taking of wildlife for conservation or other reasons.

Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils, State of Alaska representatives, and the general public play an active role in the regulatory process. You can find information about the Federal Subsistence Management Program on the web at <http://alaska.fws.gov>.

gov/asm/home.html, or by contacting the Office of Subsistence Management at (800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3888.

State and Federal Regulations

The **State of Alaska** often administers a hunt for the same species in the same area as a Federal subsistence hunt. You may not add the harvest limit from Federal Subsistence and State general hunt regulations together to increase your harvest limit. If you are not a rural resident of Alaska, you may hunt under State of Alaska hunting regulations on most Federal public lands, except National Park Service-managed parks and monuments (see #9 on page 13) or except where hunts are specifically closed by these regulations.

Federal Subsistence Board

The Federal Subsistence Board oversees the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The Board members include the Alaska directors of five Federal agencies: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Park Service (NPS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and USDA Forest Service (USDA-FS). The Board's Chair is a representative of the Secretary of the Interior.

Land and Water Access

Federal Subsistence Management harvest regulations apply to Federal public lands and waters, but do not provide for access across private lands. It is YOUR responsibility to identify ownership of lands you will access and to make sure you have permission from the land owner(s) of private land. These regulations do not apply to private lands. Some Native village and regional corporation lands require a land use permit and/or fee. Some of these lands are closed to use by non-shareholders.

Please do not trespass. The use of private lands without the landowner's permission, other than those legally-reserved public access easements, is trespass. For more information, contact your local USFWS, NPS, BLM, or USDA Forest Service office (see directory at the back of this book).

You may purchase detailed topographic maps from:

U.S. Geological Survey
4320 University Drive, Alaska Pacific University, Room 101,
Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 786-7011 or (800) USA-MAPS

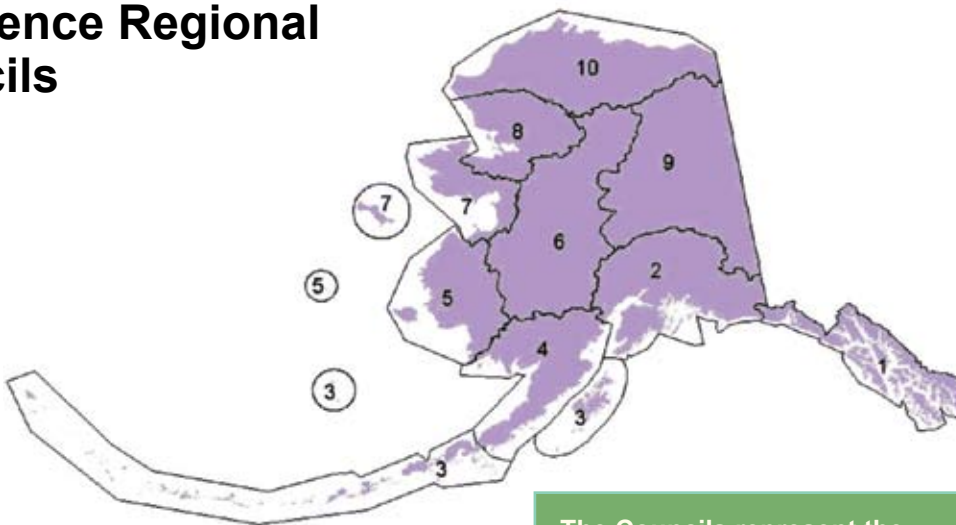
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Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils

Alaska is divided into ten subsistence resource regions, each represented by a Regional Advisory Council. These ten Councils provide opportunities for Alaskans to contribute in a meaningful way to the management of subsistence resources. Alaskans have the opportunity to comment and offer input on subsistence issues at Council meetings. Each Council meets at least twice a year. The Councils develop proposals to change Federal subsistence regulations and review proposals submitted by others.

Council membership

The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture appoint Council members. Members must reside in the area they wish to represent and have knowledge of subsistence uses and needs. Each year the Office of Subsistence Management accepts applications and nominations for membership during October-December. If you are interested in applying for membership, please contact Ann Wilkinson or the regional coordinator for your region (see next page).



The Councils represent the following regions:

1. Southeast
2. Southcentral
3. Kodiak/Aleutians
4. Bristol Bay
5. Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
6. Western Interior
7. Seward Peninsula
8. Northwest Arctic
9. Eastern Interior
10. North Slope



Shelby Fisher-Salmon, 10,
Cruikshank School, Beaver
2006 Art Contest Entry

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Who qualifies?—Council membership criteria

Applicants and nominees must be residents of the region they wish to represent and have:

- Knowledge of fish and wildlife resources in the region;
- Knowledge of subsistence uses, customs, and traditions in the region;
- Knowledge of commercial and sport uses in the region;
- Leadership skills and experience with local and/or regional organizations;
- Ability to communicate effectively;
- Willingness to travel to and attend Council meetings at least two times each year, usually in October and February. Although Council members are volunteers, members' official travel expenses for meetings are paid through the Office of Subsistence Management.
- Willingness to occasionally attend Federal Subsistence Board meetings.

What do Council members do?

- Review and make recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board on proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other subsistence-related issues on Federal public lands within the region;
- Develop proposals pertaining to the subsistence harvest of fish and wildlife, and review proposals submitted by others;
- Encourage and promote local participation in the decision-making process affecting subsistence harvests on Federal public lands;
- Make recommendations on customary and traditional use determinations of subsistence resources;
- Appoint members to National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commissions.

Regional Advisory Council information

Ann Wilkinson

(800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3676

Fax: (907) 786-3898

E-mail: ann_wilkinson@fws.gov

<http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html>

Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Coordinators

Regional Council Coordinators facilitate communication between the Advisory Councils and the Federal Subsistence Board. Each Regional Coordinator is responsible for one or two regions and serves as a contact for the Councils, Federal agency staff, and the public. Contact a Regional Coordinator for more information on the activities of each Council.

Southeast Region

Bob Schroeder
JUNEAU
(800) 586-7895
or (907) 586-7895
Fax: (907) 586-7860
E-mail:
rschroeder@fs.fed.us

Southcentral Region

Donald Mike
ANCHORAGE
(800) 478-1456
or (907) 786-3629
Fax: (907) 786-3898
E-mail:
donald_mike@fws.gov

Kodiak/Aleutians and Northwest Arctic Regions

Michelle Chivers
ANCHORAGE
(800) 478-1456
or (907) 786-3877
Fax: (907) 786-3898
E-mail:
michelle_chivers@fws.gov

Bristol Bay Region

Cliff Edenshaw
ANCHORAGE
(800) 478-1456
or (907) 786-3870
Fax: (907) 786-3898
E-mail:
cliff_edenshaw@fws.gov

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region

Alex Nick
BETHEL
(800) 621-5804
or (907) 543-1037
Fax: (907) 543-4413
E-mail:
alex_nick@fws.gov

Western Interior and Eastern Interior Regions

Vince Mathews
FAIRBANKS
(800) 267-3997
or (907) 456-0277
Fax: (907) 456-0208
E-mail:
vince_mathews@fws.gov

Seward Peninsula and North Slope Regions

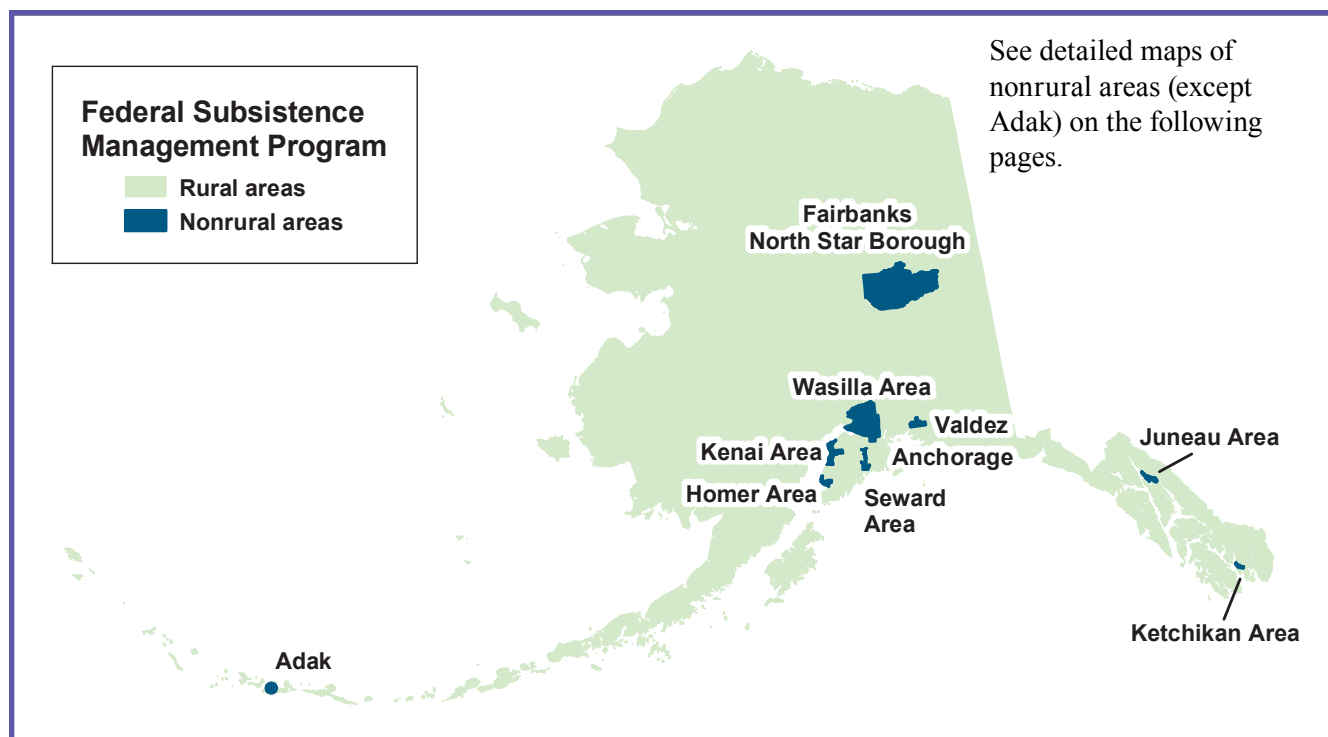
Barbara Armstrong
ANCHORAGE
(800) 478-1456
or (907) 786-3885
Fax: (907) 786-3898
E-mail:
barbara_armstrong@fws.gov

General Information

Do these regulations apply to you?

1 Are you a rural Alaska resident?

All communities and areas of Alaska are rural, except the areas shown on the following maps as nonrural areas. You must be a rural Alaska resident to harvest wildlife under Federal subsistence regulations. You must have your primary, permanent place of residence in a rural area to qualify to hunt, trap or fish under Federal subsistence regulations. A seasonal residence does not qualify you as a rural resident.



Nonrural Communities

The Federal Subsistence Board is currently reviewing the rural/nonrural status of Alaska communities. For more information, contact:

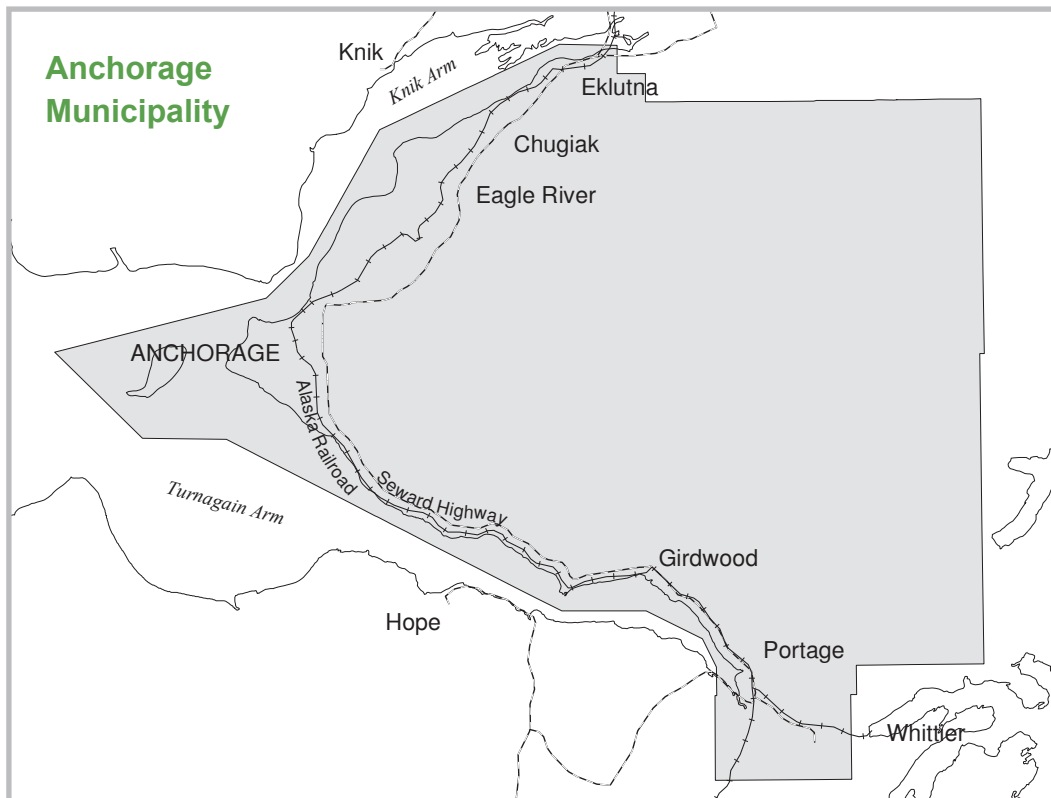
Office of Subsistence Management
phone: (907) 786-3888 or (800) 478-1456
e-mail: subsistence@fws.gov
web: <http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/home.html>

- **Adak**
- **Anchorage** (Municipality)
- **Fairbanks North Star Borough**
- **Homer area** (including Homer, Anchor Point, Kachemak City and Fritz Creek)
- **Juneau area** (including Douglas, Juneau, West Juneau)
- **Kenai area** (including Clam Gulch, Kalifornsky, Kasilof, Kenai, Nikiski, Salamatof, Soldotna, Sterling)
- **Ketchikan area** (including Clover Pass, Herring Cove, Ketchikan City, Ketchikan East, Mountain Point, North Tongass Highway, Pennock Island, parts of Gravina Island, and Saxman East)
- **Wasilla area** (including Big Lake, Bodenbug Butte, Houston, Palmer, Sutton, Wasilla)
- **Seward area** (including Seward and Moose Pass)
- **Valdez**

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Do these regulations apply to you? (continued)

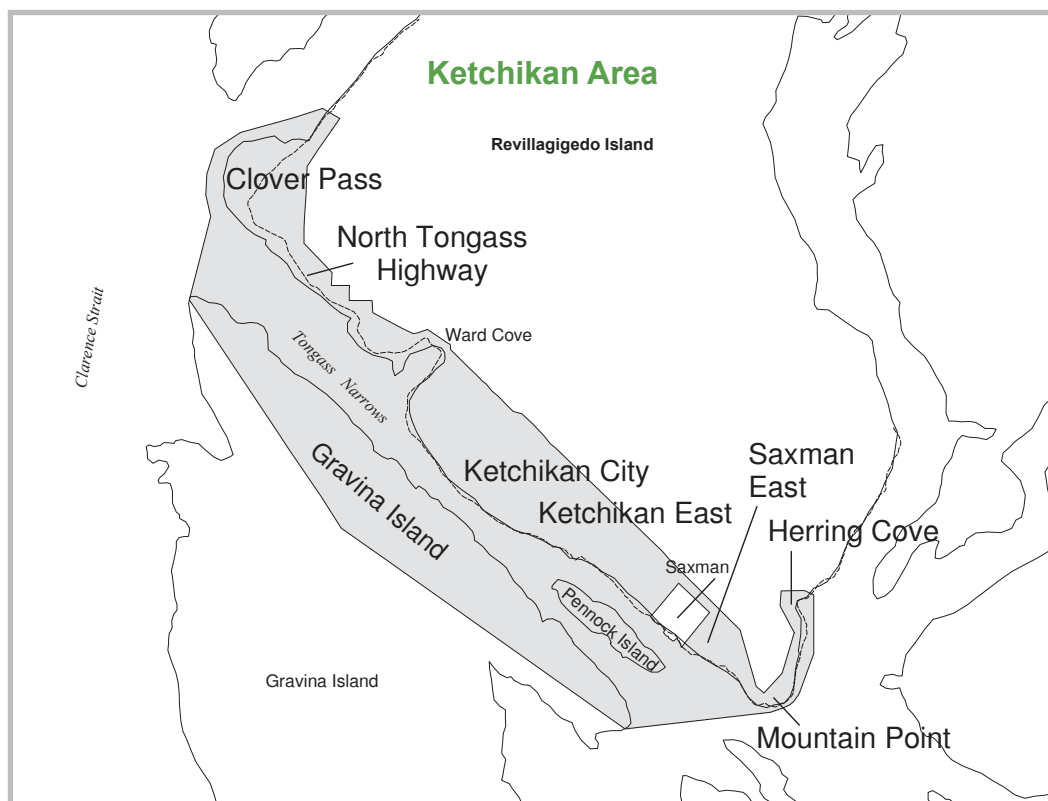
Nonrural Area Maps



General Information

Do these regulations apply to you? (continued)

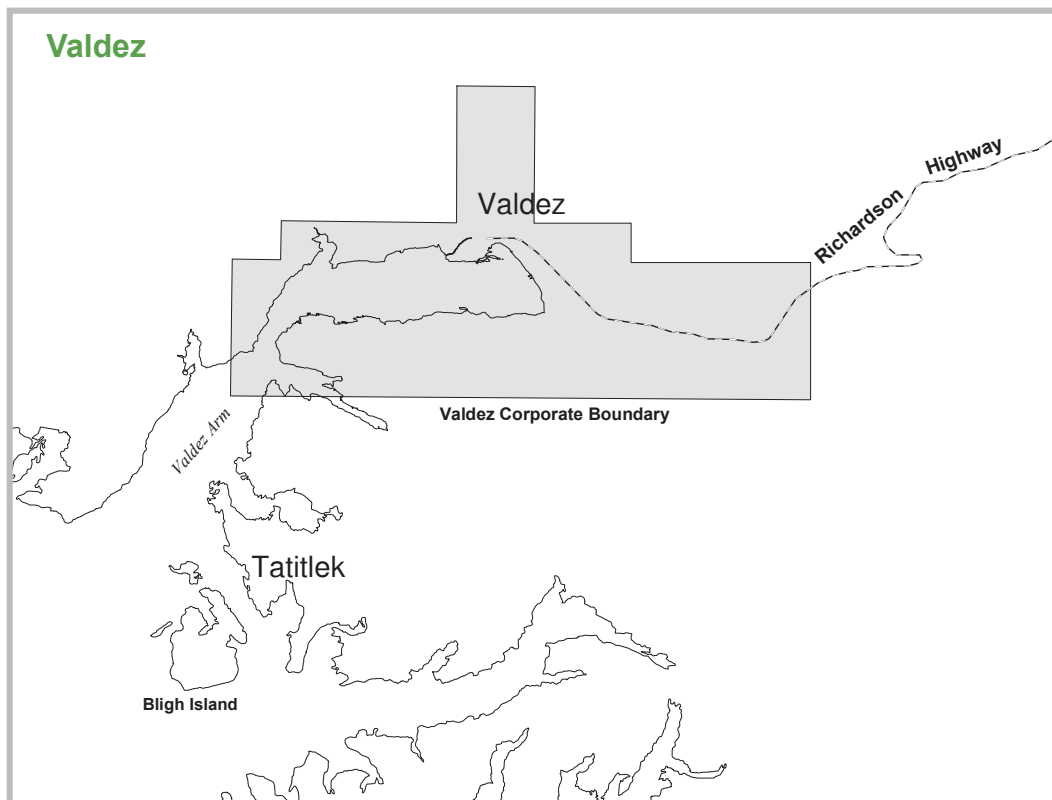
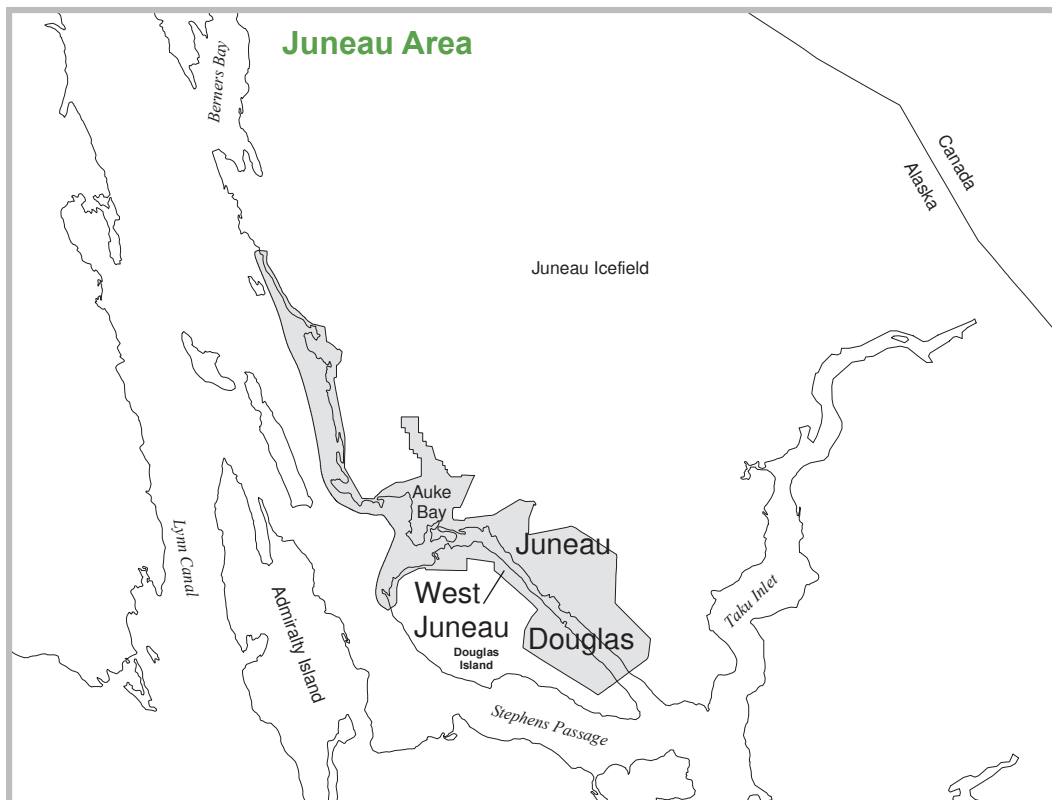
Nonrural Area Maps



General Information

Do these regulations apply to you? (continued)

Nonrural Area Maps



General Information

Do these regulations apply to you? (continued)

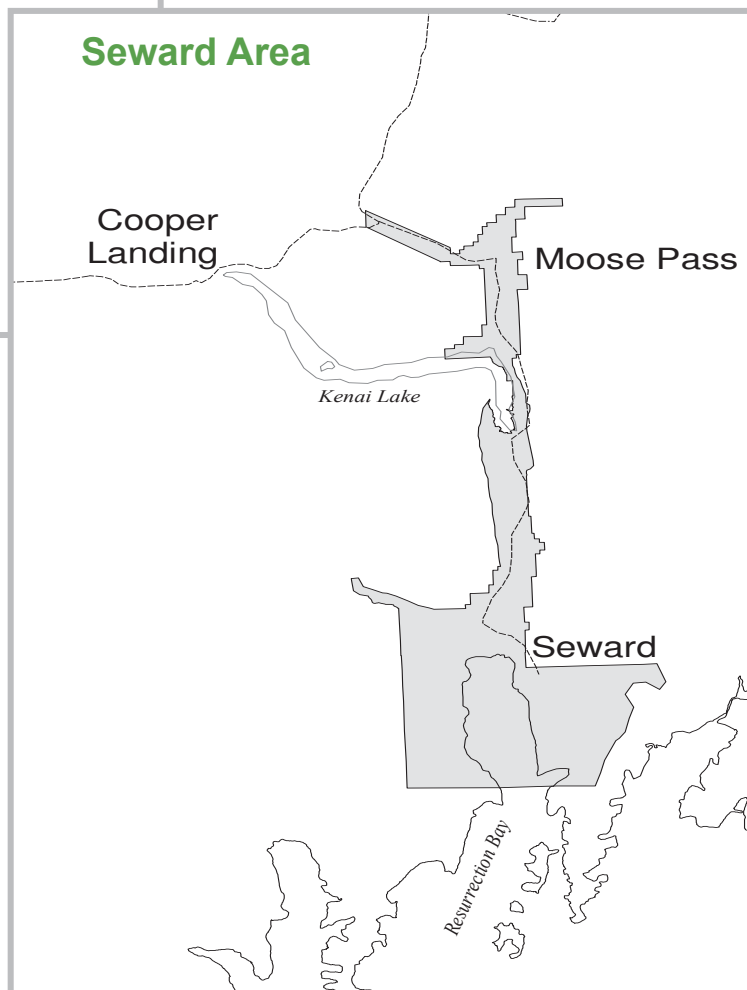
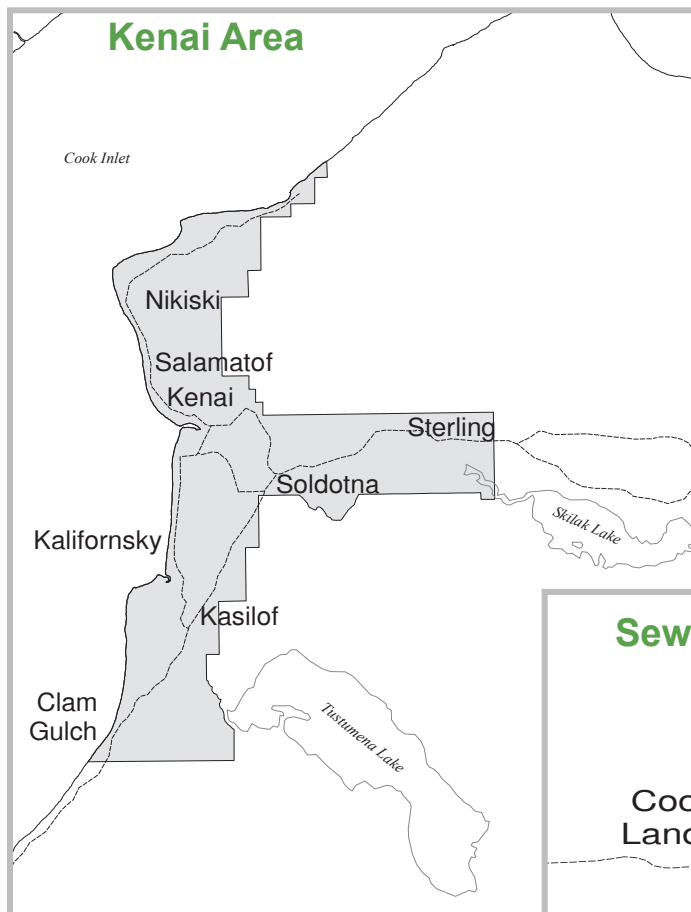
Nonrural Area Maps



General Information

Do these regulations apply to you? (continued)

Nonrural Area Maps



General Information

Do these regulations apply to you? (continued)

2 Do you qualify for customary and traditional (C&T) use?

The Federal Subsistence Board determines which communities or areas have customarily and traditionally taken a species. These customary and traditional use determinations are listed along with seasons and harvest limits and any special provisions in each Unit. When there is a positive determination for specific communities or areas, only residents of those communities and areas have a Federal subsistence priority for that species in that Unit and are eligible to hunt or trap under these regulations. If the Board has not made a customary and traditional use determination for a species, then **all rural residents** of Alaska may use that species in that Unit. Refer to the summary tables at the beginning of each Unit to identify existing C&T usage regulations.

No Federal subsistence priority means that the Federal Subsistence Board decided there is no customary and traditional use of that wildlife population. In these cases, there are no Federal subsistence seasons for that area. Hunting may be permitted under State of Alaska regulations.

3 Will you be hunting or trapping on Federal public lands?

These regulations apply to Federal public lands only. Such lands include lands managed by the USFWS, NPS, BLM, and USDA Forest Service. The regulations do not apply to State or private lands. There are no Federal open seasons in units which have no Federal public lands.

Refer to the Unit map for the area in which you wish to harvest wildlife to check the land status. For more detailed information, contact an office of the BLM, USFWS, NPS, or USDA Forest Service in the area where you wish to harvest wildlife. A list of agency addresses and phone numbers is provided in the directory at the end of this book.

4 Is there an open season?

Check the season and harvest limit tables in this book to see if there is an open season within a Unit for the species that you wish to take.

5 What is the harvest limit?

Check the season and harvest limit tables in this book to see what the harvest limit is for the species that you wish to take within each Unit.

6 Other important information

Several other sections of this book contain important information. Read the **Unit Hunting Regulations** and note any *Special Provisions* for the Unit where you wish to take wildlife. This section lists Unit-specific information, including areas where the regulations restrict the subsistence take in some manner, or where special opportunities occur.

For regulations relating to fisheries, see the *Subsistence Management Regulations for the Harvest of Fish and Shellfish on Federal Public Lands and Waters in Alaska* (published separately each Spring).

7 Do you have the necessary licenses, permits, harvest tickets, and tags?

Rural residents age 16 and older must possess a State of Alaska-issued resident hunting or trapping license to hunt or trap under these regulations. Residents age 60 or older may get a free permanent identification card issued by ADF&G. You must carry your license or permanent i.d. card with you while taking wildlife for subsistence uses. You can purchase licenses at many stores and other outlets in Alaska or on the web at <http://www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/license>.

When these regulations require a Federal registration permit, subsistence users are not required to possess State permits or harvest tickets. However, Federally qualified subsistence hunters must possess a State tag for **brown bear**, unless specifically exempt in State or Federal Unit-specific special provisions. You must show licenses, permits, harvest tickets, tags or other documents to State or Federal law enforcement agents when requested. These permits, harvest tickets, and tags are important tools wildlife managers use to monitor and protect wildlife populations. Subsistence users must follow harvest reporting rules. All subsistence users, including designated hunters, must possess and comply with any permits, harvest tickets, or tags required by State or Federal regulations.

Permitting Systems—Community harvest and designated hunter permitting and reporting systems are now in place in some communities. These systems are

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Do these regulations apply to you? (continued)

based on customary and traditional practices, including those associated with cultural and religious beliefs. The Federal Subsistence Board continues to work to establish other alternative community harvest and reporting systems where appropriate.

8 Cultural and educational permits

Your organization may apply to the Federal Subsistence Board for a **cultural or education permit** to harvest wildlife for a qualifying cultural or educational program. A qualifying program must have instructors, enrolled students, minimum attendance requirements, and standards for successful completion of the course.

Organizations should submit applications for an initial permit to the Office of Subsistence Management at least 30 days before the earliest desired date of harvest. A cultural/education permit is for no more than one large mammal per culture/education camp. Each permit limits the culture/education camp to the harvest of one deer, moose, caribou, black bear, or mountain goat. Any animals harvested will count against any established Federal harvest quota for the area where it's harvested.

9 Are there special requirements for National Park Service lands?

Subsistence use of resources in areas managed by the National Park Service are subject to additional rules and restricted to local residents in national monuments and parks open to subsistence. National Park Service regulations govern which communities or individual residents qualify as local rural residents for specific National Park Service areas. Glacier Bay National Park, Katmai National Park, Kenai Fjords National Park, Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park, "old" McKinley National Park, and Sitka National Historical Park are closed to subsistence hunting and trapping. Users of National Park Service areas are



For more information about National Park Service regulations affecting subsistence, contact:

National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office

240 West 5th Avenue, Room 114
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 644-3509 / Fax: (907) 644-3807

responsible for complying with these regulations (36 CFR Part 13, Subparts A, B, and C).

10 Subsistence taking of marine mammals and migratory birds

These regulations do not apply to the subsistence taking of marine mammals or migratory birds. These species are regulated under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

For more information on **Marine Mammals**, contact either the:

National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Region
222 W. 7th Ave., #43
Anchorage, AK 99513
(907) 271-5006

or

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1011 E. Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 786-3800 or (800) 362-5148

For more information on **Migratory Birds**, contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the address above, or call:

(907) 786-3443 or (800) 368-8890



Madison Ayson, 11,
Chignik Bay School,
Chignik Bay
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How to change Federal subsistence regulations

Alaska residents and subsistence users are an integral part of the Federal regulatory process. Any person or group can submit proposals to change Federal subsistence regulations, comment on proposals, and testify at meetings. The 10 Regional Advisory Councils meet at least twice a year. By becoming involved in the process, subsistence users help to more effectively manage subsistence activities and ensure consideration of traditional and local knowledge in subsistence management decisions. Subsistence users also provide valuable wildlife harvest information. Through cooperative agreements, the U.S. Government and several Native organizations are working to more effectively manage subsistence activities. These organizations work in an advisory capacity and provide both technical information and biological data to help address subsistence issues.

How to submit a proposal

Please refer to the form on the next page. This form contains information required to request changes to Federal subsistence wildlife regulations. You may submit proposals from August through October 20 for the 2007-2008 regulatory year (July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008). Although you do not need to use the form to submit your proposal, you do need to include information requested on the form.

Submit a separate proposal (or form) for each proposed change. Proposals submitted by fax (907) 786-3898 or by e-mail (subsistence@fws.gov) will be considered originals. To cite which regulation(s) you want to change, you can use this book or the proposed regulations published in the *Federal Register*:

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>

You may propose changes to

- Federal subsistence season dates
- Harvest limits
- Methods and means of harvest
- Customary and traditional use determinations
- For national parks and national monuments—individuals who live in a resident zone community of a National Park Service-managed park or national monument (see 36 CFR 13.43), and those who already hold a Section 13.44 subsistence use permit issued by the Superintendent (see 36 CFR 13.44), may apply for an individual C & T use determination.

Wildlife Regulatory Timeline

August 2006	Wildlife proposal period opens. Proposals to change Federal subsistence wildlife seasons, harvest limits, methods, and means; and customary and traditional use determinations may be submitted.
September-October 2006	Regional Advisory Council fall meetings. The Regional Advisory Councils meet to develop wildlife proposals.
October 2006	Wildlife proposal period closes.
November 2006-January 2007	Public comment period. Wildlife proposals are available for public review and comment.
February - March 2007	Regional Advisory Council winter meetings. The Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils meet to review regional proposals and analyses, hear public comments on proposals, and make recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board.
May 2007	Federal Subsistence Board meets to consider proposals. The Board hears Regional Council recommendations and public and staff comments on proposals before adopting the final regulations for the regulatory year.
July 2007	New regulations for the 2007-2008 regulatory year go into effect.